

SENATOR HUDKINS: Thank you, Madam Chair, and members of the body, you should have on your desk two handouts that I gave to you earlier. One of them is amendment 1006. Also, there is a letter to Mr. Dan Dolan. LB 478 is the amendment 1006. This was a bill that I introduced, was heard by the Business and Labor Committee and was advanced, but because of time it probably will not see the light of day. What this amendment does is makes a clarification in the Employment Security Act and this relates to the deductions of child support for unemployment benefits. Due to the confusion, the federal Department of Labor has urged this correction. And if you refer to the first two paragraphs of the letter, that will pretty much explain what I'm talking about. Current law allows spousal support and medical payments to be deducted and this is in violation of federal law. So what this amendment or the bill does is to put back into compliance Nebraska law with the federal law. If we don't do this, we would be putting at risk millions of dollars of federal administrative grants to the Nebraska Department of Labor. In addition, the employers of the state would face the loss of the Federal Unemployment Tax Act tax credit due to our state's lack of conformity. The loss of this credit would result in the employers of Nebraska paying approximately \$226.4 million in increased federal unemployment taxes. LB 240 is a bill which also brings existing law into compliance with federal regulations and that is why I have introduced this amendment to the bill. I would urge your support to return to Select File and then subsequently the bill itself.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Hudkins. Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABOUD: Madam President, I rise to support the amendment.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Any further discussion? Seeing none, Senator Hudkins, do you wish to close? Closing is waived. The question before you is the motion to return LB 240 to Select File. All those in favor vote aye. All those opposed vote nay. Please record.

CLERK: 33 ayes, 0 nays on the motion to return the bill.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The motion is successful. While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do hereby sign LB 173, LE 173A, LB 83,